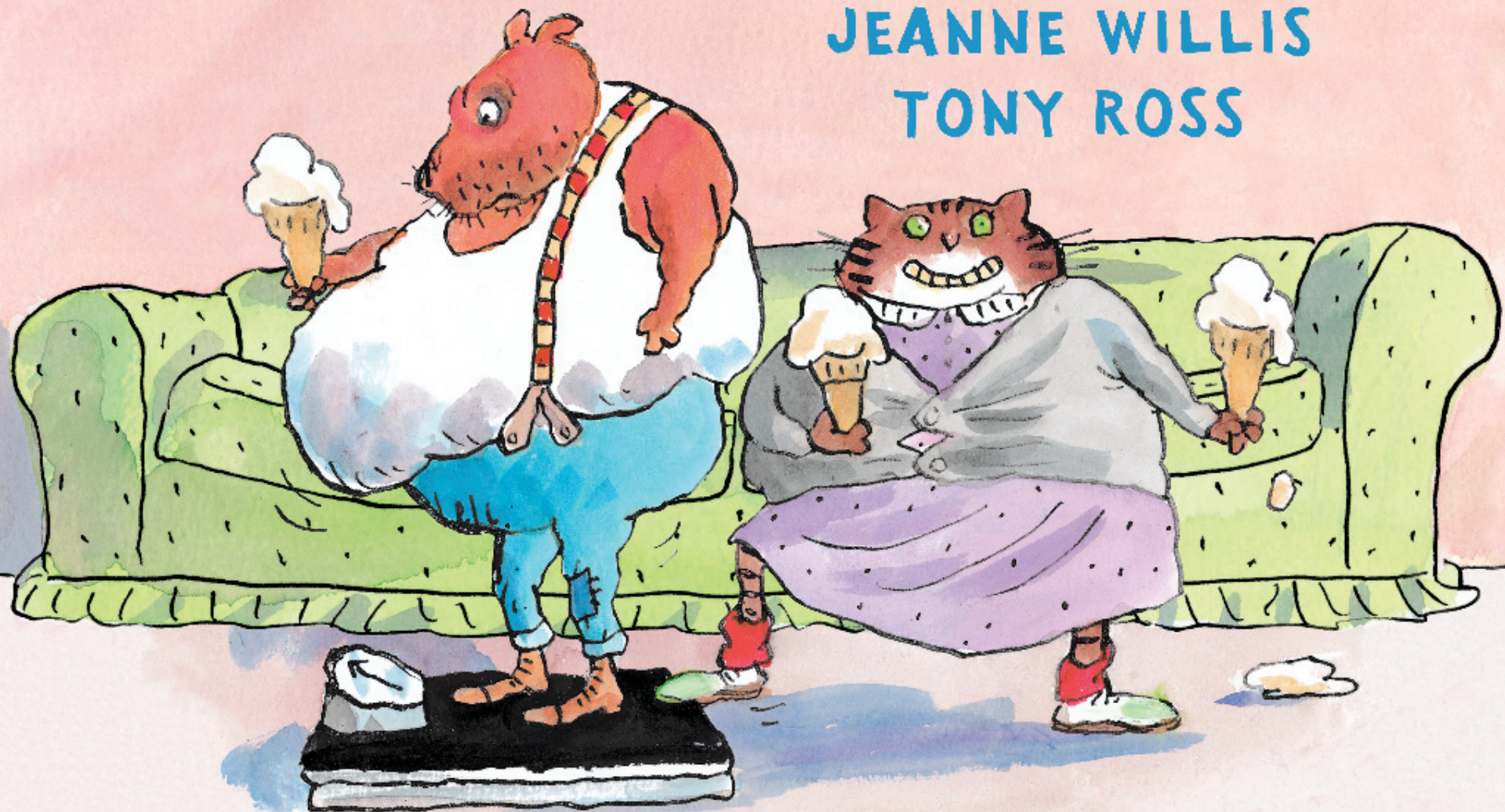


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FLABBY CAT AND SLOBBY DOG

JEANNE WILLIS
TONY ROSS



Flabby Cat and Slobby Dog are very lazy.

They sit on the couch
watching TV for days and
days and days. They eat
and eat and eat. They
sleep and sleep and sleep.
And when they wake up,
they are surprised to find
that the sofa has shrunk!
Their whole house seems
to be shrinking! Or so they
like to think. They set off
to ask their relatives
for help.

Will they find the answers
to their mystery?
Or discover their problem
was more about growing
than shrinking?

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Also by Jeanne Willis and Tony Ross:

Cottonwool Colin

Grill Pan Eddy

Mammoth Pie

Old Dog



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FLABBY CAT AND SLOBBY DOG

JEANNE WILLIS
TONY ROSS



ANDERSEN PRESS USA



Flabby Cat was sitting on the sofa when in came Slobby Dog. He sat next to her like he'd always done since they were small. But today, they just couldn't get comfortable.

"I'm all squashed," said Slobby Dog. "This sofa has shrunk."

"Nonsense!" said Flabby Cat. "The cushions have grown."

"That's it," said Slobby Dog.

"It's very uncomfortable. Whatever shall we do?" said Flabby Cat.

"Let's do what we always do," said Slobby Dog.





So they ate and ate and ate.

And they slept and slept and slept.

It was all very comforting, but when they woke up . . .



... the sofa had shrunk even smaller.

And the cushions had grown even **bigger**.

or so they *liked* to think.

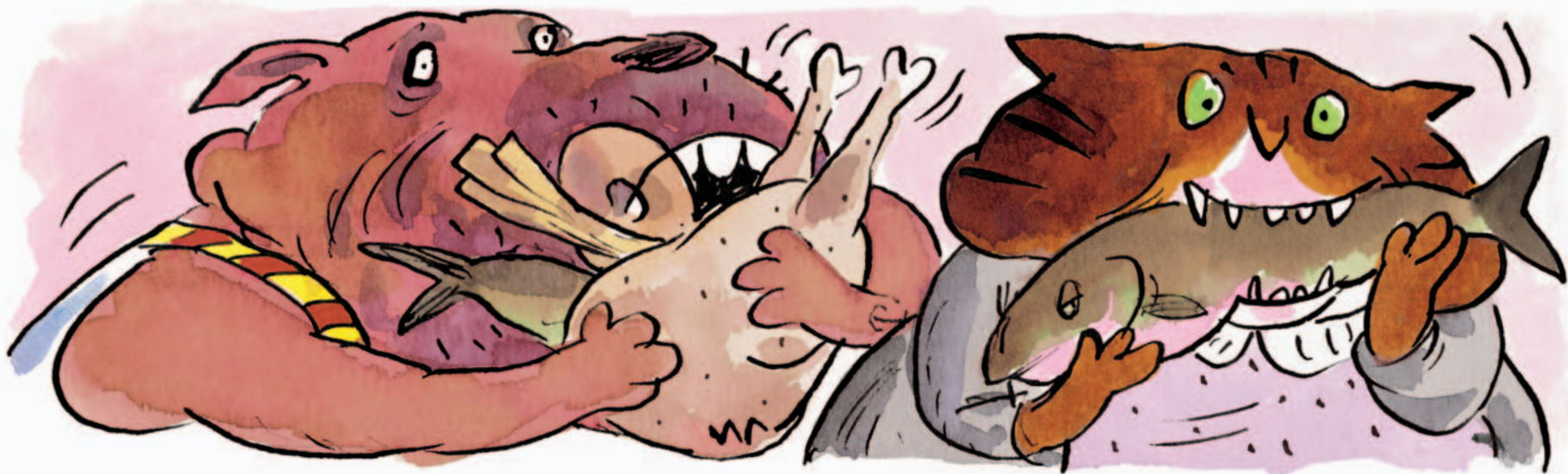


"It's a frightful squeeze," said Slobby Dog.

"Whatever shall we do now?" asked Flabby Cat.

"What we always do," said Slobby Dog.

So they ate and ate and ate.

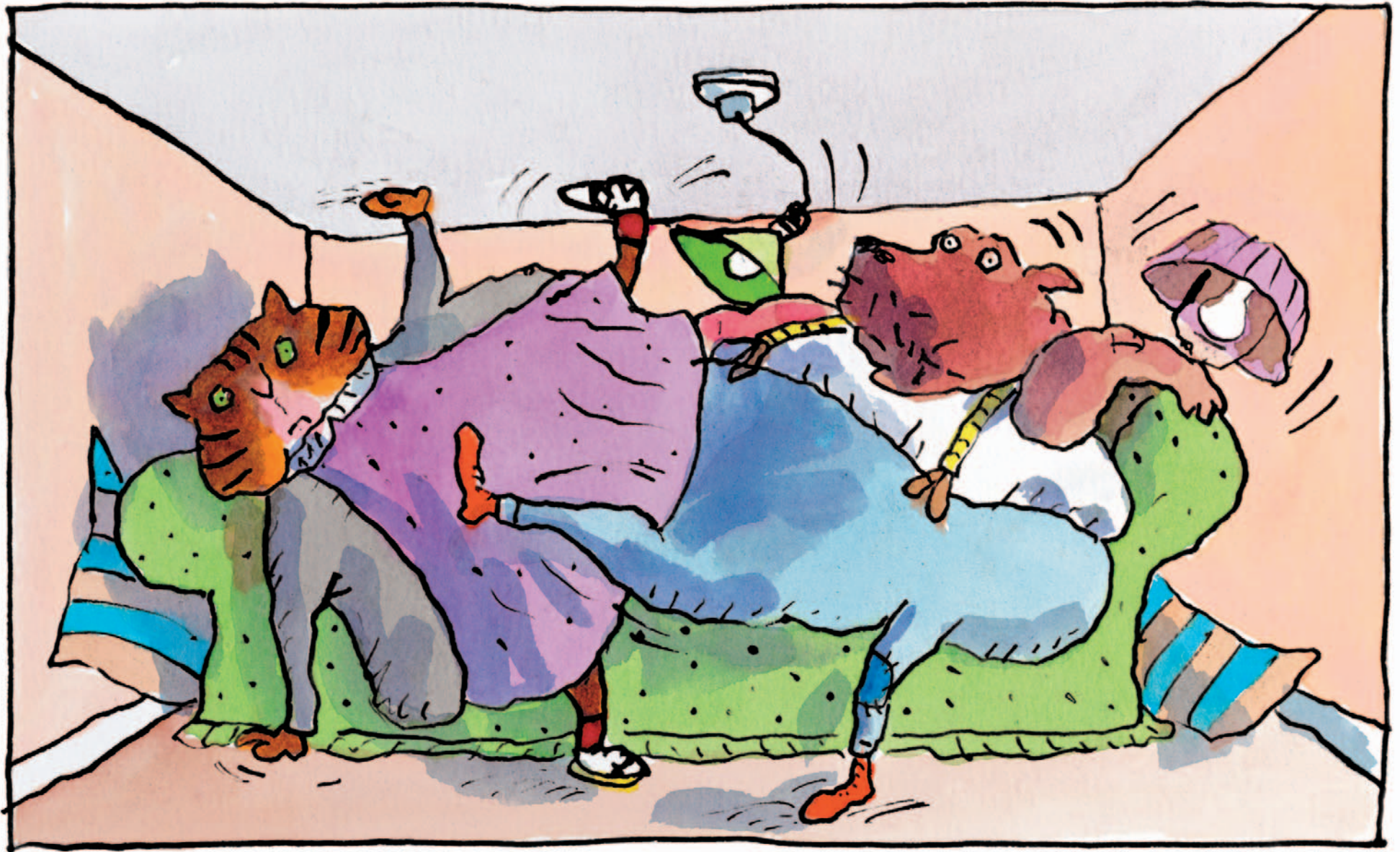


And they slept and slept and slept.



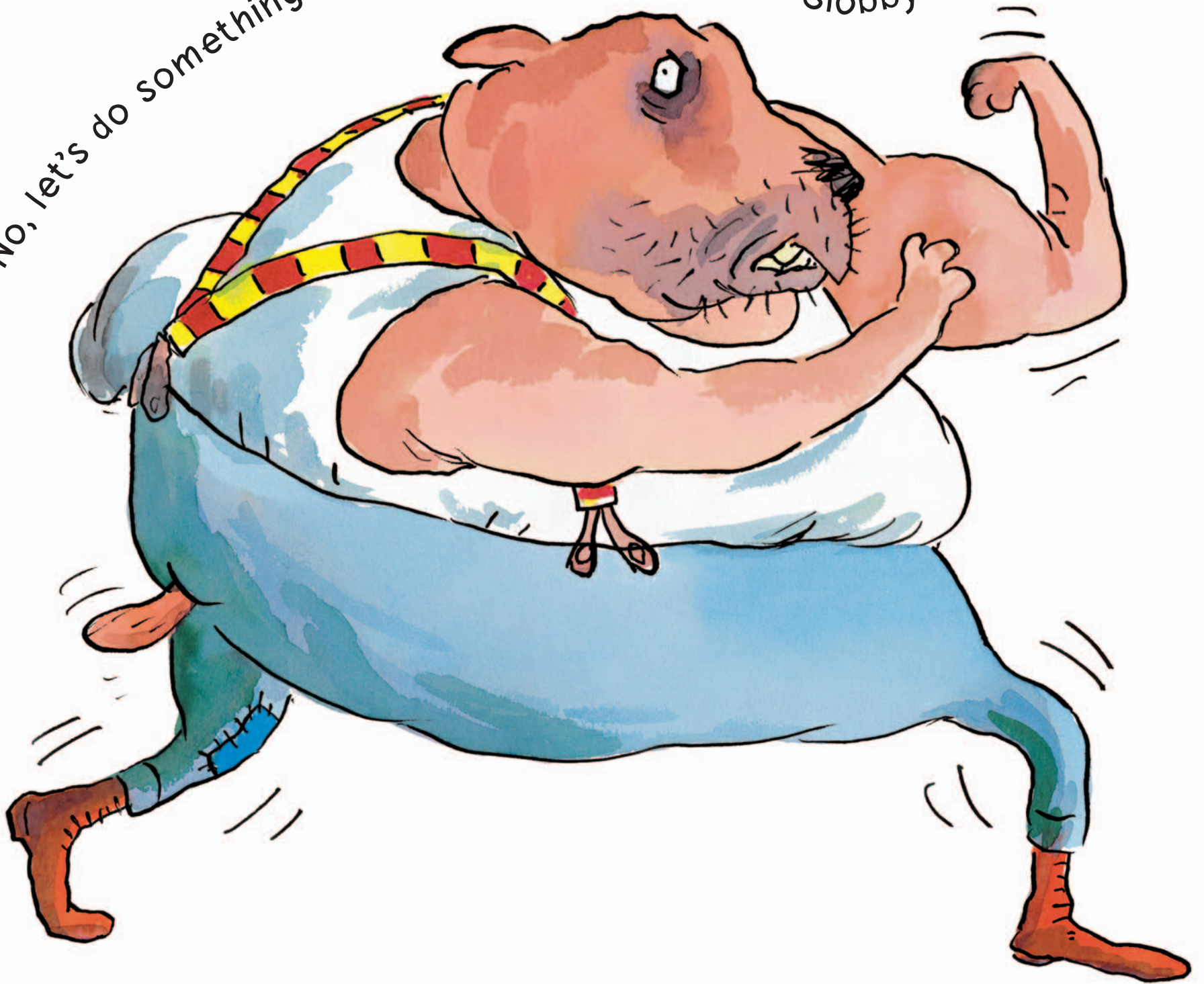
It was all very comforting, but when they woke up . . .

. . . the sofa had practically disappeared.
And the cushions almost filled the room. Or so they imagined.



“We’ll never get comfortable!” sighed Slobby Dog.
“Whatever shall we do?” cried Flabby Cat. “Eat and sleep?”

"No, let's do something completely different," said Slobby Dog. "Let's . . .



... watch TV!"



So that's what they did.

They watched a show
about a cunning tiger
and a wild wolf. And while
they were watching ...



. . . they ate and ate and ate.

And they slept and slept and slept.

It was all very comforting, but when they woke up . . .



... the sofa had shrunk, the room had shrunk,
the **whole** house had shrunk!

Or so they believed.



“There’s no room for us here,” said Flabby Cat. “Wherever shall we live?”

“Perhaps the cunning tiger and the wild wolf will let us live with them,” said Slobby Dog.

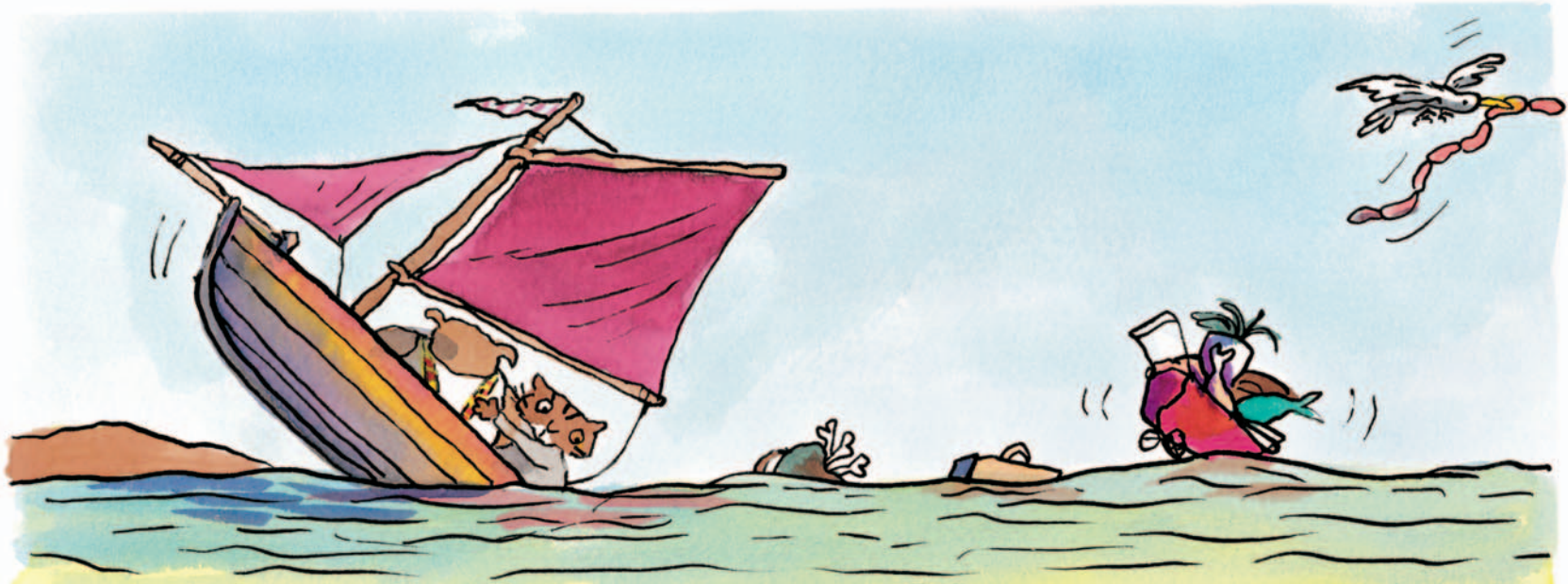
“They are our distant relatives, after all,” agreed Flabby Cat. “Let’s go and ask.”



But their distant relatives were a lot more distant than they thought. Slobby Dog and Flabby Cat walked and walked through streets and cities.



They sailed across several seas.



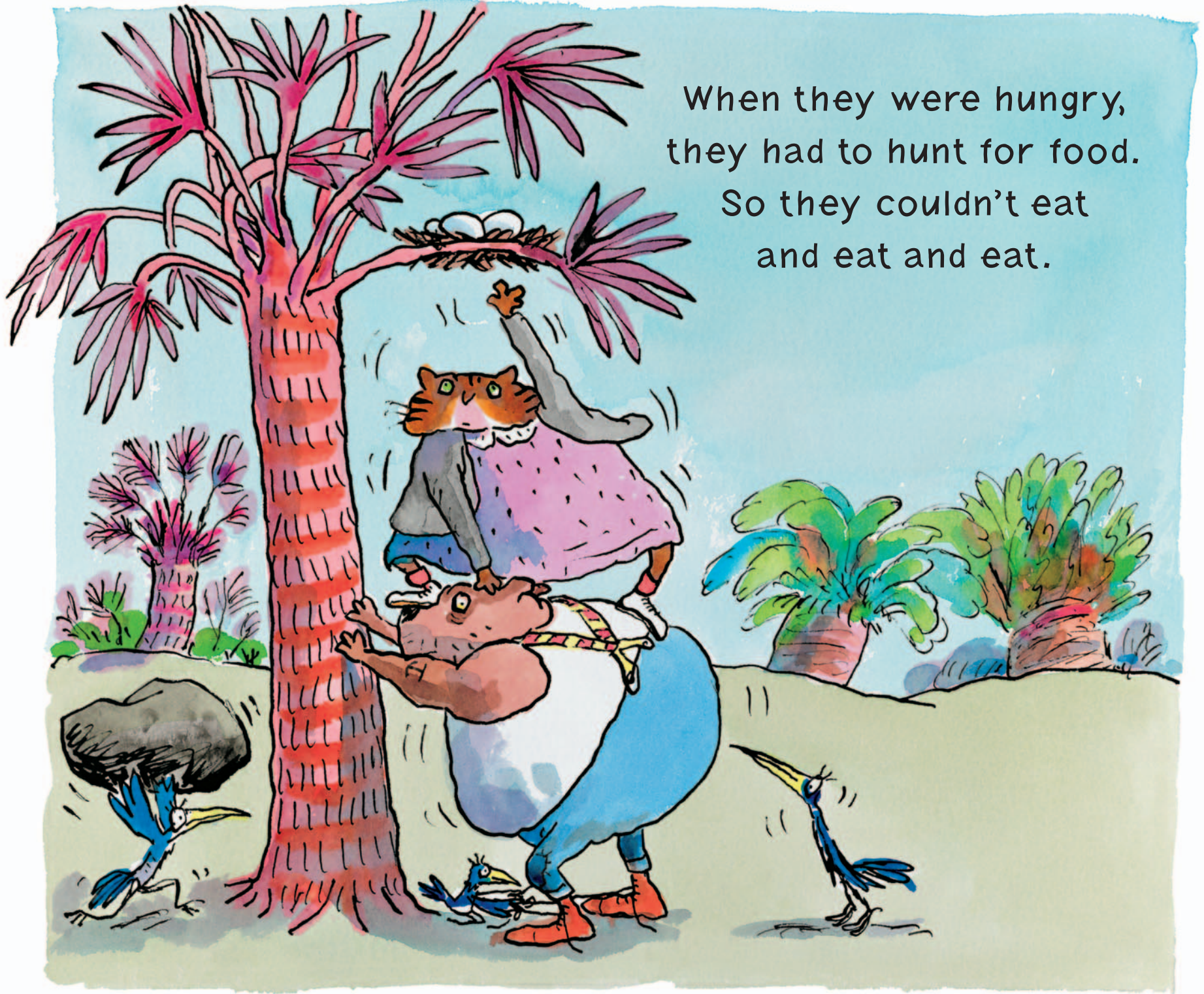
They searched fields and forests . . .

. . . mountains and deserts.



But they couldn't find the cunning tiger and the wild wolf.

When they were hungry,
they had to hunt for food.
So they couldn't eat
and eat and eat.



When they were thirsty, they had to look for water.
There was no time to sleep and sleep and sleep.
They were too busy trying to stay alive.



At last, they came to the jungle.
They looked high and low, but the cunning tiger
and the wild wolf were nowhere to be seen.

“Wherever can they be?”
said Flabby Cat.





"I bet they've gone to our house!" said Slobby Dog. "I bet they're sitting on our sofa!"

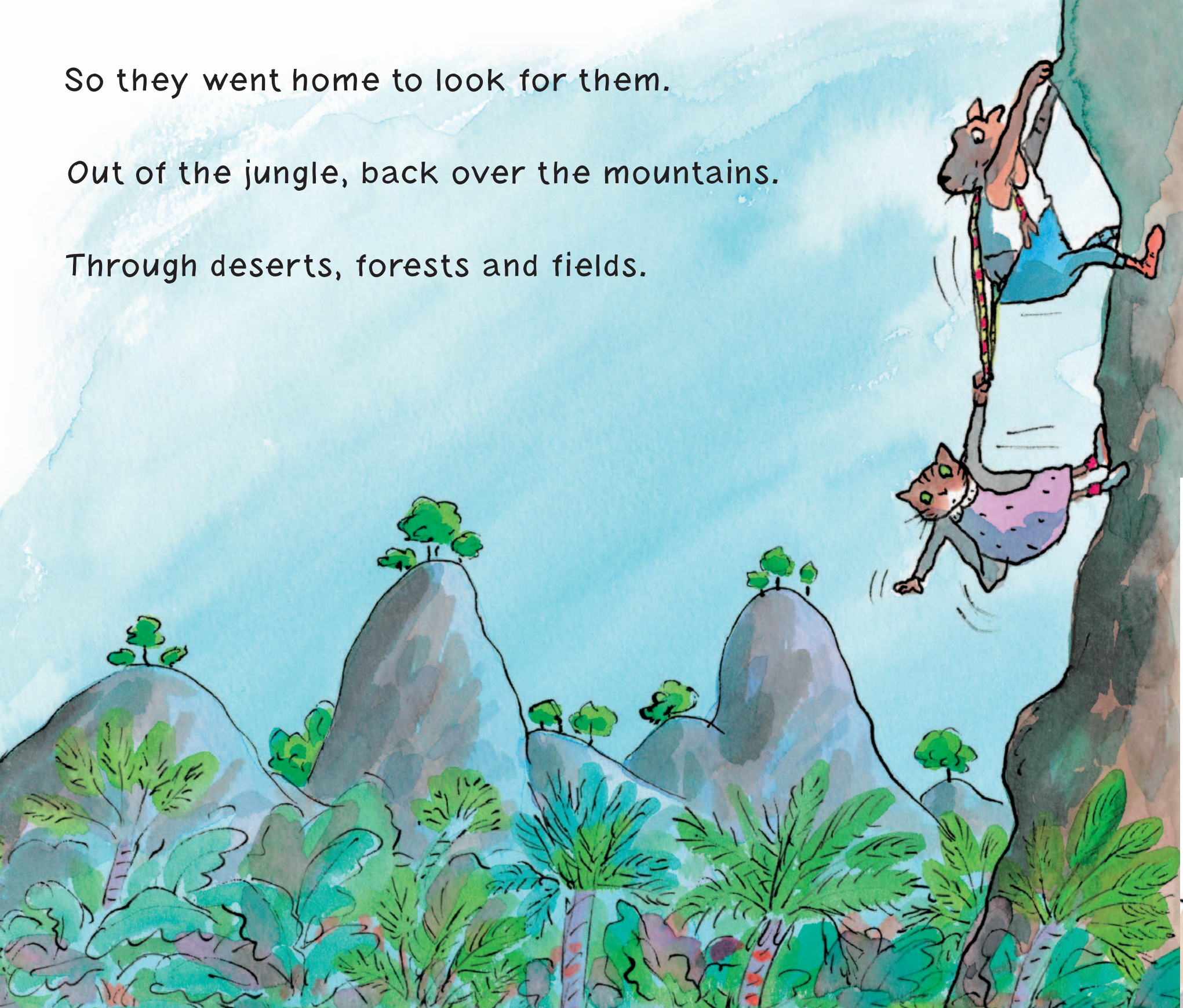
"That's just the sort of thing a cunning tiger and a wild wolf would do!" said Flabby Cat.



So they went home to look for them.

Out of the jungle, back over the mountains.

Through deserts, forests and fields.



Over the sea, into the city and the street where they lived.

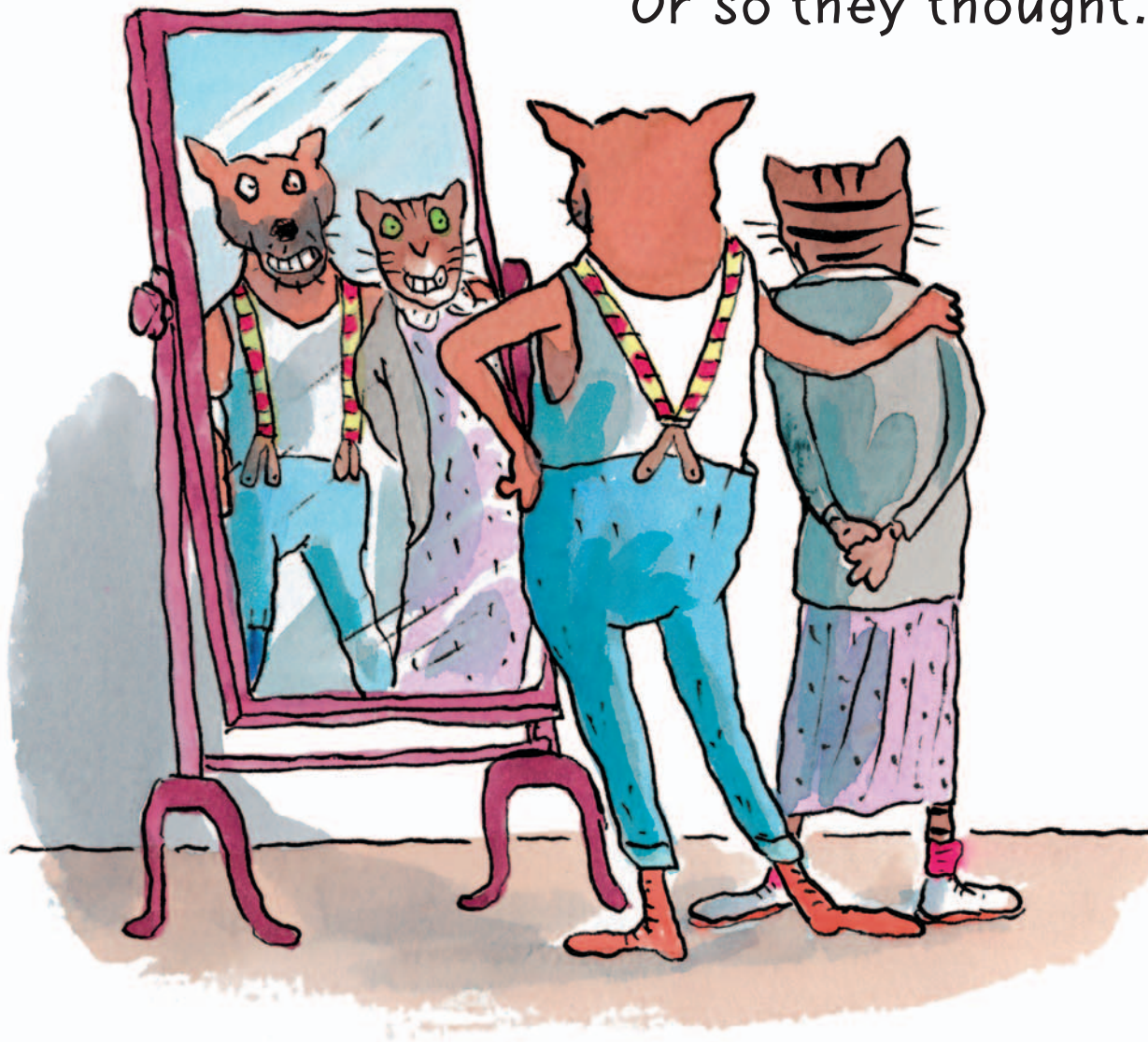


They ran indoors. “There they are!” shouted Slobby Dog, pointing at the mirror. And right there, standing in front of the sofa were none other than . . .



. . . the wild wolf and cunning tiger!

Or so they thought.



But the wolf was Slobby Dog all strong and slim from climbing and walking. And the tiger was Flabby Cat all sleek and trim from striding and stalking.

They gazed at their reflections and for the first time in a long time, they felt really comfortable with who they were.



All of which had nothing to do with the size of their sofa . . .



and everything
to do . . .



with getting off it!



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**“A dream team
of writer and
illustrator!”**

—THE TIMES

JEANNE WILLIS is a beloved author of children's books.

She also writes for television and film. She is the author of *Gorilla!* *Gorilla!*, also illustrated by Tony Ross.

TONY ROSS is a highly acclaimed children's book illustrator. He illustrated the Amber Brown series by Paula Danziger and the Little Wolf Adventure series by Ian Whybrow. His books are published all over the world.

Jacket illustrations © 2009 by Tony Ross

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